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| APPLICATION NO.                                    | FILING DATE                          | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/727,120   | 12/03/2003                           | Stephen P. Moenning  | MOEN / 04B          | 4766             |
|  | 7590 09/15/200<br>ON & EVANS, L.L.P. | EXAMINER             |                     |                  |
| 2700 Carew Tower 441 Vine St. Cincinnati, OH 45202 |                                      |                      | VU, QUYNH-NHU HOANG |                  |
|  |                                      |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |                                      |                      | 3763                |                  |
|  |                                      |                      |                     |                  |
|  |                                      |                      | MAIL DATE           | DELIVERY MODE    |
|  |                                      |                      | 09/15/2008          | PAPER            |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|  | Application No.   | Applicant(s)   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
|  | 10/727,120  | MOENNING, STEPHEN P.   |  |  |
| Office Action Summary  | Examiner  | Art Unit   |  |  |
|  | QUYNH-NHU H. VU   | 3763   |  |  |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication app<br>Period for Reply   | ears on the cover sheet with the c  | orrespondence address  |  |  |
| A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).   | ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tim vill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE | N. nely filed the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133). |  |  |
| Status   |   |  |  |  |
| Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>09 Jules</u> This action is <b>FINAL</b> . 2b) ☐ This      Since this application is in condition for alloward closed in accordance with the practice under E   | action is non-final.<br>nce except for formal matters, pro  |  |  |  |
| Disposition of Claims  |   |  |  |  |
| 4) ☐ Claim(s) 12,14-17 and 32-42 is/are pending in 4a) Of the above claim(s) 15-16, 32-41 is/are w 5) ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) ☐ Claim(s) 12,14,17 and 42 is/are rejected. 7) ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) ☐ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or  | ithdrawn from consideration.  |  |  |  |
| 9) The specification is objected to by the Examine   | r   |  |  |  |
| 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) access applicant may not request that any objection to the confidence of th | epted or b) objected to by the Edrawing(s) be held in abeyance. See ion is required if the drawing(s) is obj  | e 37 CFR 1.85(a).<br>jected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).                       |  |  |
| Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119   |   |  |  |  |
| <ul> <li>12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</li> <li>a) All b) Some * c) None of:</li> <li>1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</li> <li>2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No.</li> <li>3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</li> </ul>   |   |  |  |  |
| Attachment(s)  1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/18/08.   | 4)  Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5)  Notice of Informal P 6)  Other:   | ate  |  |  |

#### **DETAILED ACTION**

## Response to Amendment

Amendment filed on 7/09/08 has been entered.

Claims 12, 14, 17 and 42 are present for examination.

Claims 15-16, 32-41 are withdrawn from the previous Election/Restriction.

Claims 13, 18-31 are cancelled.

# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 12, 14 and 17, 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoon (US 6,228,068).

Yoon discloses a device (Fig. 1-7) comprising: a sleeve18 having an open distal end, wherein said sleeve has a working channel defined therein through which medical instruments (trocar T) maybe advanced into the body cavity; said sleeve defines a fluid delivery channel 36, 38, 40 (or where is absorb member 20 located, see Figs. 4-5) which is distinct from the working channel, and the fluid delivery channel has an exit 24, 48, 34; a housing 14 secured to the sleeve, the housing 70 having an interior void for receiving said biologically active compound (see Fig. 2, col. 14, lines 1-5); wherein the interior void 62 is in fluid communication with the exit 68 through the fluid delivery channel. It is noted that the interior void/compressible material 62 can include fluid or gel... (col. 12, lines 51-54). In Figs. 2-4, 11, 13-14 or 17 show that the interior void/compressible material 62 is in fluid communication with the exit (hoes or at distal 24) through the fluid delivery channel (or thru element 38, 36, 40):

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and a trocar T having a closed converging distal tip positionable between a first trocar position when the trocar T being located within said working channel of said sleeve (Fig. 11); and the trocar is completely removed from said working channel of said sleeve when said trocar is in second trocar position.

## **Double Patenting**

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 12, 14, 17 and 42 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-10 of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,063,060. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they are not structurally distinguishable from the claims in the patents.

## Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 12, 14, 17 and 42 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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#### Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quynh-Nhu H. Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-3228. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nicholas D Lucchesi/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3763 Quynh-Nhu H. Vu Examiner Art Unit 3763